

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 061527Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7185

INFO AAMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 511

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 1246

EXDIS

DEPT REPEAT USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS JO MO IR US

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REF (A) STATE 055551, (B) STATE 055552 (C) RABAT 1212

1. PARAS 2 AND 3 RF A INDICATE THT JORDAN CAN NOW PROVIDE
USG WITH NO-TRANSFER ASSURANCES ON (A) 16 155 MM
HOWITZERS FROM IRAN AND (B) Y F-5A'S ALSO FROM IRAN.
WE UNDERSTAND ASSURANCES ON (A) CAN BE PROVIDED IN
ABSENCE OF FINAL MOROCCAN-IRANIAN AGREEMENT ON REPLACEMENT
WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT JORDAN ASSURANCES CAN BE
PROVIDED IN CONTINUING ABSENCE GOI WRITTEN REQUEST FOR
SUCH TRANSFER ON UNDERSTANDING THAT SUCH ASSURANCES CAN BE
VOIDED (RFTEL B PARA 1) IF ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT WORK
OUT. WHILE JORDANIAN ASSURANCES ARE LIKELY TO BE
DATED AND MIGHT THEREFORE BE SUBJECT OF RAISED EYEBROWS IN
CONGRESS IF LETTERS ARE FORWARDED IN WHICH JORDANIAN
ASSURANCES ARE RECEIVED BY USG IN ADVANCE OF IRANIAN
REQUEST FOR TRANSFER, WE WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED AS
INDICATED. WE BELIEVE SEPARATE LETTERS FOR HOWITZERS
AND F-5A WOULD BE APPROPRIATE GIVEN FACT THAT REPLACE
MENT PROBLEMS MAY DELAY HOWITZERS.

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2. PLEASE FORWARD SOONEST SUGGESTED TEXT WHICH

JORDANIANS CAN USE IN PROVIDING SUCH SSURANCS TO
USG. TEXT ACCORDING TO CINC JAF LT GEN BIN SHAKER
WILL BE SIGNED BY CHIEF OF STAFF MAJOR GEN MOHAMMED
IDRISS.

3. IF DEPARTMENT HAS PREFERRED FORM FOR REQUEST FOR
FURTHER TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT FROM JORDAN TO MOROCCO
(REF TEL B PARA 2) SUGGEST WE ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH
THIS. JORDANIANS STILL UNDER IMPRESSION MATERIAL
MUST PHYSICALLY TRANSIT JORDAN, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE
IT MORE IMPORTANT THAT MOROCCANS AND IRANIANS WORK
THIS OUT DIRECTLY. WE ARE UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT
IRAN WOULD STILL PREFER MATERIAL ALL PHYSICALLY ARRIVE IN
JORDAN IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE IRANIAN
BONA FIDES THAT MATERIAL IS FOR JORDAN AND IT IS
UP TO JORDAN TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH IT (IE SHIP
TO MOROCCO) NOT IRAN.

4. WE ALSO NOTE THAT IN PARA 5, REFTEL C RABAT COM
MENTS THAT MOROCCANS COULD REPLACE JORDANIAN F-5 A
FROM THEIR OWN FLEET SHOULD ANY BE LOST. WE BELIEVE
JORDANIANS WILL INSIST ON "REPLACEMENT" OR ALTERNATIVELY
BY F-5A BY F-5E SHOULD
FORMER NOT BE POSSIBLE. UNDER
MOST FORESEEABLE CIRCUMSTANCES WE AGREE THAT JORDANIAN F5A
IN ROUGHLY COMPARABLE CONDITION. HOWEVER JORDANAINS
ARE ALSO AWARE THAT SITUATION MIGHT DEVELOP IN WHICH THROUGH USE
SUPERIOR FORCE ON THE ALGERIAN SIDE AIRCRAFT OF BOTH
COUNTRIES COULD BE MOST OR A SUFFICIENT NUMBER LOST
OR DESTROYED ON THE GROUND WHERE F-5E WOULD BE
REQUIRED FOR REPLACEMENT. THEREFORE WE STILL BELIEVE
IT PRUDENT TO CONSIDER LATTER AS AN OUTSIDE POSSIBILITY (F
5E FOR F-5A) WHEN QUESTION OF REPLACEMENT IS WORKED OUT
BETWEEN GOM AND GOJ.
PICKERING

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USCINCEUR.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976AMMAN01246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760086-0803
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczkh.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 55551, 76 STATE 55552, 76 RABAT 1212
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, MO, IR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006